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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*
Basic programme of work of the Council

Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 2004 and 2005

Note by the Secretary-General**

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* E/2004/2.

** The present document could not be completed by its slotted date for submission since it could not be finalized until after the conclusion of work of the Second Committee on 18 December 2003 and the completion of the resumed substantive session of the Council for 2003 on 19 December 2003.

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I. Proposed provisional agenda for the substantive session of 2004 of the Council and list of documents for each agenda item

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on proposed themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the 2005 substantive session of the Council (General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I)

High-level segment

2. Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the theme (Council decision 2003/287)

World Economic and Social Survey, 2004 (Chap. I)

Relevant part of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixth session. Discussion of chapter IV of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its fifth session was deferred to the organizational session of the Council for 2004 (**Council decision 2003/316**)

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

(a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (General Assembly resolutions 35/81, 53/192 and 56/201 and Council resolution 2003/3)[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on the results of the evaluation of the progress of the common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes and their impact on the field of operational activities (General Assembly resolution 56/201)[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2002 (General Assembly resolution 35/81)[1]

(b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

Documentation

Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session and annual session (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first regular session and annual session (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on its 2003 sessions (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme (General Assembly resolutions 50/8 and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes (General Assembly resolution 45/264, annex)

(a) Review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (Council resolution 2003/49 and decision 2003/287)

(b) Coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promote rural development in developing countries, with due consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promote rural development in developing countries, with due

consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development (Council decision 2003/287)

Humanitarian affairs segment

5. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 58/114 and Council resolution 2003/5)[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique (General Assembly resolution 57/104)[1]

General segment

6. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major international United Nations conferences and summits

(a) Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits

Documentation

Updated report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of resolution 57/270 B (Council resolution 2003/6)

President's summary of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (General Assembly resolution 58/230)

(b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010[1]

Documentation

Annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (General Assembly resolution 58/228 and Council resolution 2003/17)[1]

7. Coordination, programme and other questions

(a) Reports of coordination bodies

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fourth session

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2003

(b) Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fourth session

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the action taken to follow up on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States, including the findings of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics and an assessment of its work and mandate (Council resolution 2003/48)

(d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 2003/46)

(e) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, including progress in the area of gender mainstreaming (General Assembly resolution 58/148 and Council resolution 2003/49) (also under item 14 (a))[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (Council resolution 2003/49 and decision 2003/287)

(f) Ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 2003/50)

(g) Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force

Documentation

Second annual report of the Secretary-General on the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force (Council decision 2001/210)

(h) Tobacco or health

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control (Council decision 2002/242)

8. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

Discussion of the item was deferred to the organizational session of the Council for 2004 (Council decision 2003/314)

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (General Assembly resolution 57/147 and Council resolution 2100 (LXIII))[1]

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Council resolution 2003/51)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the Council (Council resolution 2003/51)

10. Regional cooperation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decision 1979/1)

Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 2003

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 2003

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 2004

Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2003

Summary of economic and social developments in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 2003-2004

11. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 2003/59[1]

12. Non-governmental organizations

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31 and Council decision 1995/304)

13. Economic and environmental questions

Documentation

Consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the work of the functional commissions of the Council (Council agreed conclusions 2002/1) (also under item 14)

(a) Sustainable development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its twelfth session (Council decision 1993/207). Discussion of decisions 11/1 and 11/2, contained in the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its eleventh session, was deferred to the organizational session of the Council for 2004 (Council decision 2003/316)

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixth session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX), 1625 (LI) and 2000/34). Discussion of chapter IV of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its fifth session was deferred to the organizational session of the Council for 2004 (Council decision 2003/316)

Report of the Secretary-General on system-wide inter-agency cooperation and coordination for the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (General Assembly resolution 58/218)[2]

(b) Science and technology for development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventh session (General Assembly resolution 46/235, annex)

Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the first phase and progress in the preparations for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (General Assembly resolution 57/238)[1]

(c) Statistics

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-fifth session (Council resolutions 8 (I), 8 (II) and 1566 (L) and Council decision 2002/298). Discussion of the report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-fourth session was deferred to the organizational session of the Council for 2004 (Council decision 2003/317)

(d) Human settlements

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Council resolution 2003/62)

(e) Environment

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session (General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) and 53/242)[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (General Assembly resolution 39/229 and Council resolution 2001/33)[1]

(f) Population and development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-seventh session (General Assembly resolution 48/128 and Council decision 2003/229)

(g) Public administration and development

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its third session (Council resolution 2003/60)

(h) International cooperation in tax matters

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its 11th meeting (Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII) and 1765 (LIV) and Council decision 2002/231)

(i) United Nations Forum on Forests

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fourth session (Council resolution 2000/35 and Council decision 2003/298)

(j) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, together with relevant background materials (General Assembly resolution 58/80)

Note by the Secretary-General on assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

(k) Cartography

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-second session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (Council resolutions 715 A (XXVII), 1314 (XLIV) and 2003/294)

Report of the Secretary-General on the sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Council resolution 476 (XV))

(l) Women and development

Documentation

Relevant sections of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-eighth session (General Assembly resolution 42/178 and Council resolution 1987/24)

14. Social and human rights questions

Documentation

Consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the work of the functional commissions of the Council (Council agreed conclusions 2002/1) (also under item 13)

(a) Advancement of women

Documentation

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-eighth session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI))

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, including progress in the area of gender mainstreaming (General Assembly resolution 58/148 and Council resolution 2003/49) (also under item 7 (e))[1]

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)[1]

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Report of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on the revitalization and strengthening of the Institute (Council resolution 2003/57)

(b) Social development

Documentation

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-second session (Council resolution 10 (III) and Council decision 2003/230)

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirteenth session (Council resolution 1992/1 and Council decision 2003/233)

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (General Assembly resolution 58/138)[3]

(d) Narcotic drugs

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-seventh session (Council resolution 9 (I) and Council decision 2003/235)

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees[1]

(f) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (General Assembly resolutions 48/91 and 58/160)

(g) Human rights

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixtieth session (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)[1]

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141)[1]

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)[1]

(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Documentation

Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its third session (Council resolution 2000/22 and Council decision 2003/305)

Report of the Secretary-General on the information concerning indigenous issues requested in paragraph (e) of Council decision 2001/316 (Council decision 2002/286 and 2003/307)

Report of the Coordinator of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People on activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/157, annex)

(i) Genetic privacy and non-discrimination

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on information and comments received from Governments and relevant international organizations and functional commissions pursuant to Council resolution 2001/39 and decision 2003/232

II. Questions for inclusion in the programme of work of the Council for 2005 and list of documents for each agenda item[a]

Substantive session of 2005

A. High-level segment

[Theme/themes to be selected]

Documentation

World Economic and Social Survey, 2005

B. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

[Theme/themes to be selected]

Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

Documentation

Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session and annual session (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first regular session and annual session (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on its 2002 sessions (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, annex, and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme (General Assembly resolutions 50/8 and 56/201 and Council resolution 1995/51)

C. Coordination segment

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes

[Theme/themes to be selected]

D. Humanitarian affairs segment

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

E. General segment

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits

Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Coordination, programme and other questions

Reports of coordination bodies

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fifth session

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2004

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Documentation

Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-fifth session

Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS)

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) (Council resolution 2003/18)

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Council resolution 2100 (LXIII))[1]

Regional cooperation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decision 1979/1)

Summaries of the surveys of economic conditions in the five regions prepared by the regional commissions (Council resolution 1724 (LIII))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe on the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (Council resolution 2003/52)

Non-governmental organizations

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31 and Council decision 1995/304)

Economic and environmental questions

Sustainable development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its thirteenth session (Council decision 1993/207)

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventh session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX), 1625 (LI) and 2000/34)

Science and technology for development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighth session (General Assembly resolution 46/235, annex)

United Nations Forum on Forests

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifth session (Council resolution 2000/35)

Population and development

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-eighth session (General Assembly resolution 49/128 and Council decision 1995/209)

Statistics

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-sixth session (Council resolutions 1768 (LIV) and 1999/8)

Environment

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth regular session (General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[1]

Transport of dangerous goods

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (Council resolution 2003/64)

Human settlements

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on its twentieth session (General Assembly resolutions 32/162 and 56/206)[1]

Social and human rights questions

Advancement of women

Documentation

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-ninth session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI))

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)[1]

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Social development

Documentation

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-third session (Council resolutions 10 (III) and 1996/7)

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its fourteenth session (Council resolution 1992/1)

Narcotic drugs

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-eighth session (Council resolution 9 (I))

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees[1]

Human rights

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixty-first session (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)[1]

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141)[1]

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Documentation

Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourth session (Council resolution 2000/22)

Notes

[1] Submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

[2] Submitted to the General Assembly through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Council.

[3] Submitted to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

[4] The list of questions will be revised in the light of the Council's deliberations on the proposed programme of work for 2004.